



EXHIBIT 1  
DATE 1-5-07  
~~SS~~ HJR 1

TO: Chairman Stoker and Members of the House Human Services Committee

FROM: Joy Bruck, Volunteer Advocate, AARP Montana

RE: SUPPORT OF HJ 1, Urge Congress to reform health care system

January 5, 2007

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Joy Bruck and I am a volunteer advocate representing AARP's 152,000 members in the state.

AARP nationally is very committed to health care reform and in fact, Bill Novelli, CEO of AARP, has said in his recent book that,

Fixing American's dysfunctional health-care system and improving the health of our citizens is not beyond our grasp. But will take more than just a little tinkering around the edges. To make health care work, and work well in today's world will require a national commitment to a transformative vision, one that expects nothing less than a healthier America in which people of every age and every social class can look forward to long and vigorous lives and top-quality care.

...The experts already know what needs to be done, [which] can be captured in the following seven steps:

- *Improving the use of information technology to cut waste and achieve efficiencies;*
- *Reducing the toll of medical errors;*
- *Promoting health and healthy behavior from infancy through old age;*
- *Preventing disease, not just curing it;*
- *Sharpening our focus on the growing problem of chronic diseases;*
- *Dealing with the escalating cost of prescription drugs;*
- *Making sure that all Americans have access to the health care system.*

(Novelli, Bill. 50+: Igniting a Revolution to Reinvent America. New York: St. Martin's Press, 2006.)

Surveys of our members in Montana consistently show that health care reform is a top priority.

AARP Montana is dedicated to health care reform and we urge your support of HJ 1.

*AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization that helps people 50+ have independence, choice and control in ways that are beneficial and affordable to them and society as a whole. We have staffed offices in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.*